

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the section entitled “Related Applications” on page 1 of the Application as filed with the following amended paragraph:

The present application is related to commonly assigned and co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[\_\_\_\_]] 10/756,919 (Attorney Docket No. AUS920031038US1) entitled “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING REFERENCE CHARACTER DICTIONARY COMPARISONS DURING HANDWRITING RECOGNITION”, filed on [[\_\_\_\_]] January 14, 2004, and to commonly assigned and co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[\_\_\_\_]] 10/756,930 (Attorney Docket No. AUS920031045US1) entitled “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SCALING HANDWRITTEN CHARACTER INPUT FOR HANDWRITING RECOGNITION”, having a filing date of January 14, 2004, and hereby incorporated by reference.